Lowest Plant load factor in Bihar

74. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Bihar has the lowest plant load factor and one of the highest in transmission and distribution losses in respect of electricity for the last several years; and

(b) if so, whether the Central Government propose to improve this situation?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) The Plant Load Factor of thermal power stations in Bihar has been much below the national average while transmission and distribution losses have been above the All India Level for several years.

(b) In order to improve the performance of Patratu and Barauni thermal power stations, comprehensive renovation and modernisation schemes have been prepared and are being implemented.

Various measures for implementation have been suggested which would help reduce the transmission and distribution losses.

Electrification of Viliages in Bihar

75. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what has been the target and actual achievement of electrification of villages in Bihar during the last three years; and

(b) by what year Government propose to electrify all the villages of Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) The target and actual achievement of electrification of villages in Bihar during the last three years has been as under:-

Year	Target	Achievement
1983-84 . .	4500	3607
1984-85 . .	3000	603
1985-86 . .	2000	2120 (provisional)

(b) Cent per cent electrification of villages in Bihar would be achieved by mid-nineties subject to availability of resources.

Stockyards of coal in Bihar

76. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that West Bengal has 29 stockyards of coal whereas Bihar with a larger population has only two stockyards; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A committee was constituted by Coal India Ltd. to go into the working of sockyards of Coal India. The Committee has since submitted its report which is under the consideration of CIL Board. Any new sockyards can be opened only after a view is taken on the recommendations of the Committee.

Domestic consumption of coal by group 'C' consumers

77. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that group 'C' consumers of coal consists of domestic consumption and brick burning and only 20 per cent to 30 per cent of the intended wagons are supplied actually and as such the prices of coal for such uses has gone very high; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to ease the situation?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) and (b) Coal is covered in item (iii) of Priority 'C' of the Preferential Traffic Schedule General Order No. 74 issued by the Department of Railways. The priorities for different classes of consumers for allotment of wagons for movement of coal are given